

Message Text

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PAGE 01 AMMAN 04358 141527Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
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O 141402Z MAY 78
FM AMEMBASSY AMMAN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6103

S E C R E T AMMAN 4358

EXDIS

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (P A R A 2)

E.O.11652: XGDS-1
TAGS: PEPR, PDIP, PGOV, JO, US, XF
SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL MESSAGE TO KING HUSSEIN

REF: STATE 121415

1. I DELIVERED PRESIDENT CARTER'S MESSAGE (REFTEL) TO KING HUSSEIN ON MAY 14.
2. KING READ MESSAGE CAREFULLY IN MY PRESENCE AND SEEMED TO RECEIVE IT POSITIVELY. AT ONE POINT HE EXCLAIMED "VERY INTERESTING" BUT REFRAINED FROM ELABORATING. HE ASKED ME TO CONVEY HIS THANKS TO PRESIDENT FOR THE MESSAGE AND SAID HE WOULD PROBABLY SEND A REPLY. HE DID NOT COMMENT ON THE QUESTION OF HIS VISIT TO U.S.
3. APROPOS OF THE COMMENT IN THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE REGARDING THE HOPE THAT KIND SADAT WOULD COORDINATE POSITIONS, KING HUSSEIN MENTIONED THAT EGYPTIAN VICE PRESIDENT MUBARAK WOULD BE VISITING JORDAN TOMORROW AND KING HOPED VISIT WOULD BE AN OPPORTUNITY FOR SUCH COORDINATION.

4. WITH THE PRESIDENT'S REMARK AS BACKGROUND THAT
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NEGOTIATIONS ARE NOT GOING FORWARD AS RAPIDLY AS HE HAD HOPED, I DREW KING'S ATTENTION TO SECRETARY VANCE'S MAY 12 REMARKS AND SAID THEY APPEARED DESIGNED TO FORCE NEGOTIATIONS' PACE A BIT BY MENTIONING CURRENT PERIOD OF STAGNATION IN NEGOTIATIONS AND STATING THAT TIME HAS COME FOR NEW INITIATIVES AND CALLING FOR DECLARATION OF PRINCIPLES AND CONCRETE ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE WEST

BANK AND GAZA. KING SAID HE WELCOMED THIS APPROACH TO KEEPING THE PRESSURE ON ISRAEL, ADDING THAT "THE NEGOTIATIONS CERTAINLY NEED IT."

5. I ALSO MENTIONED THE MIDEAST ARMS PACKAGE BEFORE THE CONGRESS AND FILLED KING IN ON THE MECHANICS OF THE PROCESS AND OUR BELIEF THAT ADMINISTRATION WOULD WIN THE VOTE. I MENTIONED THE PRESIDENT'S LETTER TO THE SENATE AND ITS POINTING OUT THAT CURRENT ISSUE IS A TEST OF OUR SUPPORT FOR THOSE WORKING FOR MODERATION AND PEACE IN MIDEAST.

6. SPEAKING PERSONALLY, I SAID I THOUGHT MIDEAST ARMS PACKAGE WAS NOT A SIDE ISSUE; IN FACT CRYSTALLIZING THIS ISSUE IN CONGRESS COULD HAVE VERY USEFUL EFFECT OF FORCING CONGRESS TO TAKE INTO ACCOUNT CURRENT REALITIES IN THE MIDEAST SITUATION GENERALLY, WHICH COULD HELP IN ADVANCING MIDEAST NEGOTIATIONS.

7. IN PARTING I MENTIONED WE WOULD BE VERY INTERESTED IN RESULTS OF MUBARAK VISIT AND KING SAID HE WOULD BE IN TOUCH. HE ALSO SAID HE WILL BE GOING TO VISIT PRINCE FAHD IN SAUDI ARABIA AT END OF WEEK.

8. DEPARTMENT MAY WISH TO REPEAT TO CAIRO AND JIDDA. SUDDARTH

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